

**THE GREAT METEORIC SHOW.**  
Full and Interesting Details of a Stone Which  
Fifty-one Pounds Falling to the Earth—  
Accounts from Eye-Witnesses.

The Washington Times has an intelligent pen-  
man's glowing letter sent to Professor  
HENRY, of the Smithsonian Institution.  
Descriptive of the recent meteoric  
phenomenon in Ohio.

HENDERBEE, Ohio, May 9, 1890.

Dear Professor: You will doubtless see  
that I have an exceedingly good specimen  
of meteoric stones which fell on the list in  
near the village of Concord, in Mus-  
kingham county, Ohio, and which I had  
thought it a hoax, or at least an incorrect  
statement, I have taken such pains as  
circumstances would permit to obtain as  
near as possible all the facts and circum-  
stances connected with it.

I have taken notes between twelve

the clouds about two-thirds overcast with drizzle. Simultaneously with the fall of drizzle, a strong wind sprang up from the north and red in the atmosphere. To those nearly by it resembled a severe clap of thunder it was a sensation, which, together with the noise, was felt and heard at a much greater distance than the noise of the rain. It was observed and remarked as something peculiar by persons fifty miles off. I was at the time in the city of New York, and so extraordinary was the detonation and jarring sensation that I thought it (either from the force of the wind or the earthquake shock; in fact such was the general opinion of all who heard it. To me it seemed like the fall of a bomb. Two distinct reports were heard—accounts vary from six to twelve—they were in rapid succession, perhaps within a few seconds of time between them. No strange was the sensation that cattle in the fields ran, and

Two, which fell within about six hundred yards of each other, were seen by a considerable number of witnesses. The first, following the reports, one of the men looked up and saw a large body fall into the water. He immediately turned his head in the direction, saw another which fell upon it a few seconds later. Within about twenty minutes after the appearance of the first object, which had fallen in the field, where it had buried itself to the depth of about twenty feet, he observed a second object, which was still so hot that it could scarcely be held in the hands. From the direction in which it came, he estimated that it must have fallen vertically.

This object was fifty-one pounds and its shape irregular, long and thin, tapering at both ends, like a pine tree without the top, or a cypress tree without the bottom. The weight, which fell upon the ground, weighed forty-two pounds. In its descent it appeared to have been very noisy and burst itself in the earth, having a direction apparently from the north-

ing and overhead, and, looking up, saw the clouds in a strange state of commotion. The clouds were in a state of agitation of the clouds was observed by others. Thinking that he heard some one say that a stone weighing thirty-six pounds, which had fallen upon and embedded itself in a tree trunk, he turned to the right and saw in its fall a direction from the southeast. Near Clayville, about six miles distant, he saw a large tree trunk, which had been blown, and very soon afterwards a stone weighing four pounds fell near them, and he saw it fall in the same direction as the cobble. The direction of this appeared to be from the north. The four stones were seen to fall in the same direction as the cobble; and he saw that the stones which had fallen in the woods and lodged in the trees, were all in the same direction as the roots surrounding a beech tree. It weighed about thirty pounds, and appeared to

smooth, striated surface. This exterior coating was, however, very thin—not over 1/16 of an inch thick. The interior of the stones had an ashy color, and contained fine particles of some shining substance, probably iron.

JOHN C. TIDBALL,  
Lieutenant U. States Army  
Professor of Chemistry,  
Smithsonian Institute, D. C.

**SUICIDE OF McDONALD.**

What excitement was created about the Tomb yesterday by the announcement that Robert C. McDonald, who has been so long confined to answer for the death of a woman, had been released from prison. The fact, as subsequently learned, was that, about eleven o'clock yesterday morning, McDonald had been seen by a guard McDonald's cell, found him lying on his bunk apparently senseless. He was taken to the hospital, where, immediately,

[illegible]

and did not after being first discovered by the police. He was then committed to the Tomb, where he has since been confined, to answer for homicide. He was not allowed to see any one, and to destroy himself, and an exceedingly strict watch has been kept over him in his cell. He was, however, supplied for strychnine shortly after his incarceration, informed Mr. Sutton, the physician in charge of the prison, and the utmost care has been taken in admitting visitors to see him. Notwithstanding this, he has been able to procure strychnine into his cell, both of which were regulated by the keepers. One of these was a man named John McDaniel, who, a month since, was a common dinner knife, which McDaniel had contrived to give him, and which he had used to destroy himself. It has evidently been given him by his firm determination for many years to put an end to his life, and he has done so more especially since the passage of

It is not clear that McDonald advised anyone of the possibility of suicide. The police officers, who were not present at the time, did not believe that anyone would attempt suicide rather than go to the State Penitentiary.

Who could have supplied the deceased with the poison it is impossible to conjecture. The grated doors of the cells will not open from the inside, and the keys are guarded inside, and a person once having gained entrance the scrutiny of the keepers would be required. The only means of committing suicide. This was the case in the case of Stephens, who received the poison from his cell, and was taken from his friends. Since that time outposts of doors of stout iron have been placed before the doors of the cells, and it is utterly impossible for even the smallest article to be passed in without the keepers' knowledge. The prospect of ascertaining who furnished the poison to the deceased is, as yet any of McDonald's visitors, and the authorities are endeavoring to furnish the board of prison officers with the names of all persons who have been in the prison for 30 years or age, and was formerly a

**QUESTIONS**—That the Congress has no power to alter the territorial Constitution, is a question that has been discussed in the Territories, and has been decided by the Supreme Court in the case of *United States v. Klein*, 130 U. S. 171, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 9

FAST FINANCING ABROAD.—One of the items on news by the Halifax steamer *Albatross* is that the Government is about to advance for a sum of £400,000 with the flight of the partners to parts unknown. "Company" is the name of the firm, and the swindling operations of the chief partner of the Union Bank of London, the fact that the Government is about to advance "bad tenders," for the moment, the part of our brethren across the water is not a very pleasant prospect. It is to be expected among us here.

The Fowler defalcation is a big thing in the States, and the Government is to compare with the Pullinger swindle (\$1,125,000) and the American Express swindle (\$1,000,000) by the Bostonian in London, which has been justly rebuked by the Londoners.

The truth is, "the love of money is in the heart of man," both there and here, and it is such being the case, that the Government for John Bull lecturing Brother Jonathan is not a very pleasant prospect.

"I love thee still," as the quiet husband  
said to his chattering wife.